



***District of Columbia***  
***Interagency Council on Homelessness***



***ERSO Committee***  
***January 22, 2020***

# Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome & Call to Order
- II. Information Items
  - I. 801 East Employment Meeting
  - II. Hypothermia Check-In
- III. Heat Plan Review
- IV. Shelter Program Rules Feedback
  - a. Key Context/Process
  - b. Areas for Feedback
  - c. Today's Focus
- v. Updates & Announcements
- VI. Adjournment

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# 801 East Employment



- ❖ The first Workforce on Wheels (WoW) event happened on Friday
  - Thank you for all you helped make this possible
  - We had a great turn out
  - Follow up WoW Event will occur on Feb 6<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Additional Employment Information - Census Jobs
  - Full & Part Time Positions Available
  - Hourly Salary: \$20 - \$27.50
  - Apply Now at: [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs)
  - Background check will be conducted

# Hypothermia Check in



❖ Your feedback?

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# Heat Plan



- ❖ 2019 Heat Plan had a dedicated chapter
  - “Guidance for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness”
    - ✓ Any feedback on the additions of that chapter?
- ❖ Any concerns from last year?
  - Individuals being turned away from locations?
  - Individuals not having places to go?
- ❖ Next Steps

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# Rethinking Program Rules



- ❖ Over next several months, in anticipation of the new shelter and renovated shelters, the ERSO committee will be working on obtaining feedback on program rules, e.g.:
  - Client rights & responsibilities (temporary beds)
  - Prioritizing access to beds
  - Terminable actions
- ❖ Consumer Engagement Work Group will assist in gathering feedback from clients (both sheltered and unsheltered)
- ❖ Objective is to provide DHS with feedback by late spring so they have ample time to develop updated program rules before we move into any new site.

# Rethinking Program Rules



## ❖ Temporary Beds

- A number of the topics discuss “Temporary Beds”
  - ✓ Beds that may be accessible throughout the day/night and once an individual has a bed, they can keep their bed until they exit from the program.
  - ✓ May have additional expectations.
  - ✓ At 801 we will be focusing on two types of temporary beds:
    - Work Beds
    - Elderly/Disabled Beds (Mobility Issues)

# Areas for Feedback



- ❖ Prioritization for temporary beds, due to limited numbers
- ❖ Assigning beds in low barrier shelters to create a calmer atmosphere
  - With smaller dorms and more floors, we may be able to better match people with similar needs
- ❖ Storage policies
  - How much stuff can people have with them? The 2 bag rule was based on available space. If space changes, our policies should change. What's appropriate?
  - Can people in the low barrier shelter leave things over night in foot lockers? What happens if they don't return the next night?
- ❖ Kitchen/food rules (especially in the work bed dorms)
  - Can you have food in the dorm area? Or only in the kitchenette/lounge? What about food storage? Who's responsible for cleaning the fridge out? How do you know when it's ok to throw things?
- ❖ Hygiene issues
  - What happens when someone refuses to shower or refuses treatment for lice or other bugs?

# Areas for Feedback (Con't)



- ❖ Expectations related to cleaning up after yourself in shared areas (especially in the kitchenette or family-style bathroom)
- ❖ Medication management/distribution
- ❖ Mail management
- ❖ Rights and Responsibilities for Temporary Beds
  - Review HSRA ahead of time
  - Expectations regarding participation in case management and working on an exit plan. What happens when clients are not meeting these expectations?
- ❖ Access to different parts of the building
  - How do people move from the main floor to their floor? Fob access? Do staff have to operate the elevators?
- ❖ Mixed gender spaces
  - Expectations related to self-management, ensuring safety for everyone, etc.

# Today's Focus



- ❖ Expectations related to cleaning up after yourself in shared areas (especially in the kitchenette, bathroom, lounge area)
  - What happens if a toilet is clogged? If someone creates a mess in a shared area - are they expected to do more than remove their items? Are they expected to clean? Is this different for different dorms? Are their different expectations? Chore charts? Should clients have access to cleaning supplies?
- ❖ Mixed gender spaces
  - Expectations related to self-management, ensuring safety for everyone, etc. By floor, communal spaced etc.

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